



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Northwest Region  
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 1  
Seattle, WA 98115

Refer to:  
OSB1996-0619

June 25, 1996

Mr. Howard Jones  
Planning and Engineering Division  
Corps of Engineers, Portland District  
P.O. Box 2946  
Portland, Oregon 97208-2946

RE: Reinitiation of Section 7 Consultation for Repair of Existing Pile Dikes in the Lower Columbia River

Dear Mr. Jones:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) completed a section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on the Corps of Engineers (Corps) project to repair existing pile dikes in the lower Columbia River on September 22, 1995. In that consultation, the NMFS concurred with the Corps' determination that the proposed activities (use of an impact hammer to drive piles outside of the normal work window) would have an adverse affect on Snake River fall chinook salmon, but would not jeopardize their continued existence. An incidental take statement was issued for the project that stipulated that pile driving shall start no earlier than 1100 hours and cease no later than 1800 hours on any given day. The Corps also agreed to conduct a study to determine what responses are elicited from Pacific salmonids by the "sound signatures" of vibratory and impact pile drivers. The action area for the project included pile dikes at six sites in the Columbia River below Bonneville Dam.

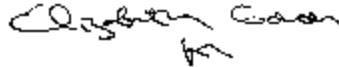
The Corps requested reinitiation of consultation for repair of existing pile dikes in the lower Columbia River in a June 26, 1996, letter to Jacqueline Wyland. Consultation was reinitiated due to the Corps determination that an additional 15 dikes needed repair. The additional dikes are located at river mile: 23.07, 24.63, 34.63, 37.90, 51.75, 56.81, 64.5, 76.16, 91.13, 91.99, 92.39, 96.21, 96.90, 99.38 and 99.86. The additional work is proposed to begin in late August or September of 1996.

Because the addition of the proposed pile dikes to the project do not change the findings of the original consultation, NMFS concludes that the proposed action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species of Snake River salmon. The Biological Opinion issued on September 22, 1995, is hereby amended to include the 15 additional pile dikes at river mile: 23.07, 24.63, 34.63, 37.90, 51.75, 56.81, 64.5, 76.16, 91.13, 91.99, 92.39, 96.21, 96.90, 99.38 and 99.86



The Corps must reinitiate consultation if: 1) the amount or extent of taking specified in the Incidental Take Statement is exceeded, or is expected to exceed; 2) new information reveals that effects of the action may affect listed species in a way not previously considered; 3) the action is modified in a way that causes an effect on listed species that was not previously considered; or, 4) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the action (50 CFR 402.16) .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William Stelle, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Stelle, Jr .  
Regional Director